

KETTERING
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S

AND

NUISANCE INSPECTOR'S

ANNUAL REPORTS

FOR 1898.

KETTERING :

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MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

FOR 1898.

To the Kettering Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

Introductory. In presenting to you my Annual Report for the past year I am pleased to be able to say that the health of the District has, with two or three exceptions, been very good during the year; and where infectious disease has broken out the efforts of your officers have been successful in tracing the cause of and controlling such outbreaks.

Population. The population of the District in the middle of the year was, as near as can be calculated, about 11,500, the slight increase being chiefly in the villages of Broughton and Burton Latimer, where many new houses have been built.

Birth and Death Rates.		Males.	Females.	Total.
	The number of Births			
	during 1898 were	156	141	297
	The number of Deaths was	83	70	153
	The Birth Rate was	25·8 in the 1000		
	The Death Rate was	13·3 in the 1000		
	The Zymotic Death Rate			
	was	1·04 in the 1000		

Owing to the division of the District in 1891 I am unable to go further back than that year for comparison with the past.

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Zymotic Death Raet.
1892	35·6	14·3	·7
1893	26·5	16·7	·3
1894	24·7	15·1	1·5
1895	27·9	16·2	1·4
1896	27·1	14·6	1·2
1897	26·2	14·3	·8
1898	25·8	13·3	1·C4

The mean rates for the past seven years are—

Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Zymotic Death Rate.
27·8	14·2	·9

Here follow the statistics of illness and deaths required by the Local Government Board, to which I add the causes of all the deaths during the year.

TABLE OF DEATHS.

During the year 1898, in the Kettering Rural District, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES. AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
	At all Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.
Kettering Rural	153	40	19	3	5	33	53
Totals	153	40	19	3	5	33	53

MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN
UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics ; public institutions being shown as separate localities												
	Scarlatina.	Membranous Croup.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Influenza.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.
Kettering Rural	Under 5	1	1		4	4		18			2	28
	5 upwds		2			2	7	13	20	2	1	48
												58
												96

Area and Population of the District or Division to which this Return relates.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	47,353
Population (last Census)	...	...	...	...	...	10,000
" (Estimated to middle of 1898)	...	...	...	...	...	11,500
Death Rates.—General, 13.3 per 1,000 Population, estimated to middle of 1898.						
" " Infant (under one year of age) 134.6 per 1000 Births Registered.						

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS,

Coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1898 in the Kettering Rural Sanitary District, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	Population at all ages.		Registered Births.	New cases of sickness in each locality coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.							Number of such cases removed from their homes in the several localities for treatment in the Isolation Hospital.	
	Last Census.	Estimated to middle of 1898.		Age under 5 or over 5	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Erysipelas	Scarlatina.	Enteric or Typhoid.	
Kettering Rural ...	10,000	11,500	297	Under 5	6			8	1			
				5 upwds	21	3	1	29	9	6	11	

Apoplexy	...	...	...	5	Croup	...	...	...	...	1
Convulsions	...	...	...	5	Measles	...	...	...	...	4
Paralysis	...	...	...	2	Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	2
Laryngitis	...	...	...	1	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	4
Bronchitis	...	...	...	20	Influenza	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	11	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	2
Phthisis	...	...	...	7	Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	6
Heart Disease	...	...	...	20	Congenital Debility	...	...	...	...	6
Asthma	...	...	...	2	Cyanosis	...	...	...	...	1
Gastritis and Enteritis	...	...	...	5	Atrophy	...	...	...	...	7
Liver Disease	...	...	...	3	Miscarriage	...	...	...	...	1
Kidney Disease	...	...	...	3	Senile Debility	...	...	...	...	21
Obstruction of Bowels	...	...	...	1	Injuries	...	...	...	...	3
Bladder	...	...	...	1	Not certified	...	...	...	...	2
Cancer	...	...	...	3						—
Gangrene	...	...	...	1						
Scarlatina	...	...	...	1						
									Total	153

An examination of these tables will show that the death rate is a low one, and that there has not been any serious mortality from zymotic diseases.

Measles. Measles was very prevalent in Cottingham and Middleton in March, and it was thought desirable to close the Schools in those places from March 9 to March 30.

The Corby Schools were also closed for a few weeks. Three deaths occurred in Corby and one in Middleton. These were the only deaths caused by this disease in the whole district.

A considerable number of cases of Scarlet Fever of a mild type were notified from Cottingham in April and May; and two cases from Corby, one of which proved fatal—the only death from this disease during the year in the district.

Scarlatina. Scarlet Fever was reported from Burton Latimer in July. The removal of the earliest cases to the Isolation Hospital appeared to be the means of stopping the outbreak. The same thing happened in November with the same result; and on the last day of the year another case occurred, which was at once removed to the Hospital.

This illness also occurred in the parish of Weekley. when the Hospital was again used with good results.

Two cases occurred at Cottingham in October, one of which, a domestic servant, came to Hospital, and there was no extension of the disease.

Two cases also occurred in Grafton Underwood in November, but as the house in which the patients lived was separated from all others, the patients were well isolated without any spread of the illness.

In all 27 cases were notified, with one death.

Diphtheria.

Two cases of Diphtheria were notified from Cottingham, the first of which was imported from a neighbouring village out of the district: both recovered. One case occurred in Broughton. The condition of the premises was enough to account for this case, which also recovered.

Typhoid
Fever.

A case of Typhoid Fever occurred in Broughton in February, which was at once removed to Hospital. It was caused by an overflowing ashpit and cesspool. No further case occurred, and the patient recovered.

Another case, caused by drinking impure water, was brought from Broughton to the Hospital in December, and is now convalescent.

Three cases of this disease occurred in Burton Latimer. Impure drinking water was the cause in one instance, and in another swallowing water while bathing in a brook containing sewage matter. Two of these cases were removed.

A very sad case of Typhoid Fever occurred in Stanion in July, when the young mother of a family was seized with a very virulent form of the disease, and was carried off in a very short time. Not only was the drinking water

bad, but the drains were in a very unsatisfactory state and quite untrapped.

But the most serious outbreak with which we have had to contend in this district for some time occurred at Corby in September. Owing to the obscure symptoms in the earlier cases as many as ten persons were suffering from the disease before your officers got to work to prevent the spread of the disease. All these cases occurred in one batch of houses near the Brook, and we came to the conclusion that they were caused by an untrapped drain connecting a room in the cottage where the first cases fell with the Brook, which had become very polluted owing to the dry season; the drain itself, too, was very stagnant. The same privies were used by the inhabitants of these houses, and for the reception of the evacuations of those who were ill, and at first no means were taken to disinfect or bury these. The following measures were taken without loss of time:—The drain was cleansed and trapped; the brook was cleansed; a nurse was despatched to the village, whose duty was to help in and direct in the nursing of the sick, and to stringently carry out the disinfection and burial of infected matter. Cases then began to fall outside the area of the batch of houses above mentioned, and every one of these cases was removed at once to the Infectious Diseases Hospital, so that no fresh centre might be started.

Shortly after a case of Typhoid occurred at Cottingham. This man had been lodging at one of the infected houses at Corby. He was removed to the Hospital the next day.

In all 26 cases suffered: all but two of these had been connected in some way with the first batch of houses named. One of these two had been drinking bad water, and the other had been working at Desborough, where Typhoid Fever was prevalent.

Seven cases were removed to the Hospital ; two cases proved fatal—one at Corby and one at the Hospital.

The measures taken to prevent the spread of the disease were eminently successful. The first cases were notified on September 15, the last on November 6.

To prevent any future pollution of the Brook it has been decided to make a semi-culvert, so that without covering it a smooth and easily-cleaned surface will be provided.

The only other cases of Typhoid occurred at Warkton quite at the end of the year. Four cases were notified—all in one house. At first the drinking water was suspected, but as several other families had been using the same water it is more probable that the disease was caused by an offensive drain which had been opened in the street almost close to the infected house.

Every effort has been made to prevent the spread of the illness : a nurse was employed as in the cases at Corby, and, as far as I can judge, these efforts have been successful, nearly a month having elapsed since the last case fell.

The Notification of Infectious Diseases has been as follows :—

Scarlatina	27 cases — 1 fatal.
Diphtheria	3 cases
Croup	1 case — fatal.
Typhoid Fever	37 cases — 2 fatal.
Erysipelas	10 cases.

Free use has been made of the Joint Isolation Hospital, and I think the result has been more markedly beneficial in the Rural than in the Urban District ; indeed, in every instance the use of it by persons from the

Rural District seems to have been the means of greatly assisting in arresting the spread of disease, while the patients from crowded houses have had a much better chance of recovery.

Seventeen cases were admitted from the Rural District—

11 cases of Typhoid—one fatal
6 cases of Scarlet Fever—all recovered

The Typhoid cases were from—

Broughton 2 Burton Latimer 2 Corby, 6
Cottingham, 1

The Scarlet Fever cases were from—

Weekley, 1 Burton Latimer, 4 Cottingham, 1

We were deprived of the services of the Matron, Miss Lanyon, for about three months at the beginning of the year, who took Typhoid Fever from a very severe case on which she was in constant attendance. Since her recovery both she and Nurse Fletcher have been very fully occupied, and have given every satisfaction. The other Nurses have all been freshly appointed.

Dr. Paget, the Medical Officer of the County Council, has established a plan of receiving from each Medical Officer of Health in the county a monthly return of all cases of infectious disease reported, and in return furnishing a return of cases for the whole county. This excellent plan has been and will be the means of putting us on our guard against the introduction of illness.

Ise Brook.

The great alterations which have been and are being made at the Kettering Sewage Works have already greatly improved the condition of the effluent into the Ise Brook, and when the works are completed the effluent

will be all that can be desired, although, of course, the accumulation of former years of imperfectly purified sewage will take some time to disappear.

Considering the very dry summer the water supplies of the villages have held out well, although in two or three places some inconvenience has been experienced.

Nothing has yet been done as to the improvements suggested on this head at Pytchley, although Dr. Paget has been at great pains to modify and make feasible the plans which had been drawn out. It appears from his Report that the scheme he suggests, which would not be a very expensive one, will have to be carried out by private enterprise.

Your Inspector, Mr. Norwood, has been most energetic during the past year, and his work has been most useful. I am particularly indebted to him for the long daily visits he paid to Corby during the anxious time of the outbreak of Fever there.

Although there have been several outbreaks of Zymotic Disease they have been met with energy and without loss of time; and I must tender my best thanks to the Council for giving me a free hand as to expenses in cases where it became necessary, and congratulate them on the success which followed such action.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. WINTER DRYLAND,

Medical Officer of Health.

Kettering Rural District Council.

Sanitary Inspector's Report, 1898.

*To the Chairman and Councillors of the Kettering
Rural District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

In presenting this Report I find there has been a decided increase of work during the year, both in respect of public drainage and private improvements to properties.

Nuisances.

One hundred and seventy-three cases have been dealt with by the Council, besides those dealt with privately by your Inspector.

Severe measures were taken in the case of a house unfit for habitation at Cottingham, and after preliminary notices and summons the building was demolished.

In connection with the Typhoid outbreak at Corby one house has been closed, being unfit for occupation.

Drains.

New sections of drainage have been laid at Burton, Warkton, Harrington, and Geddington. The Sewage Scheme for Broughton is in the Committee's hands, and will shortly be discussed.

Water

The question of Pytchley Water Supply has not been satisfactorily settled, and the present supply pipes require repairing considerably.

The Springs throughout the District have suffered owing to the drought, and at Geddington steps are being taken to improve the supply.

A large number of samples from public sources have been tested and approved, but out of 32 private supplies tested, only nine could be passed for use.

Bye-laws and
Plans.

For Burton Latimer and Broughton Model Bye-Laws have been adopted, and a great improvement in the buildings has resulted.

At Burton Latimer a large number of new Houses, Shops, Schools, a new Club, and Salvation Barracks have been passed, and at Broughton several new houses have been built.

Dairy and
Cow Sheds.

Application forms were issued and brought before the public. Samples of Milk submitted from Corby during the Typhoid outbreak were certified as genuine.

The following work is being carried forward :—

Broughton Sewage Scheme.

Corby Brook : a contract to invert the bottom to afford a better means of flushing.

Cranford : the removal of drainage outlet to a point farther from the public footbridge.

Generally.

Brooks and Ditches have received attention. Several Street Drains have been trapped and ventilated. There is a great necessity for improvement in the disposal of refuse from vaults and pigstyes in all the parishes, and at Burton Latimer, where a scavenger is employed, owners would find a great improvement by substituting pails for vaults.

Yours obediently,

HERBERT NORWOOD,

Inspector of Nuisances.

87, Broadway, Kettering.

